

MA-EPD

The way your prescription drugs are paid for is changing January 1, 2006

Starting January 1, 2006 Medicare will pay for your prescription drugs. **Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MA-EPD) will stop paying for most prescription drugs on December 31, 2005.** To get Medicare drug coverage that best meets your needs you need to choose and join a prescription drug plan. Medicare will enroll you in a prescription drug plan if you don't choose one by December 31, 2005.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Enrollment

- Soon you will get information about the different Medicare drug plans in your area and resources to help you compare the benefits of those plans.
- Medicare does not know what prescription drugs you take or which pharmacy you use. It is important that you learn about the Medicare prescription drug plans so that you can choose the plan that is best for you.
- Later in October, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will have a tool available on its website at www.cms.hhs.gov for you to compare drug plans.

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage Costs

- You will get extra help to pay Medicare prescription drug costs because you are enrolled in MA-EPD. You do not need to fill out an application to get this extra help. We will tell Medicare that you qualify for extra help. Extra help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs means:
 - You will **not** have to pay monthly premiums for Medicare prescription drug coverage.
 - You will **not** have to pay deductible or coinsurance under a Medicare prescription drug plan.
 - You **will** have to pay a co-pay of \$1 to \$5 for each prescription, depending on your income. When your total drug costs (not co-pays) reach \$5,100 during 2006, your co-pays will stop.
 - These co-pays are your only cost for basic Medicare prescription drug coverage. As long as you are enrolled in both a Medicare prescription drug plan and MA-EPD, even if you see these plans advertise premiums, deductibles and coinsurance, you will only have to pay the co-pays.

Nothing else is changing with MA-EPD

- All other services MA-EPD pays for now will still be covered.
- You must continue to pay your MA-EPD premium to stay on the program.

If you still have questions or need help, please call the Disability Linkage Line at 1-866-333-2466.

This information is available in other forms to people with disabilities by contacting us at (651) 431-2400 (voice) or toll free at (800) 747-5484. TTY/TDD users can call the Minnesota Relay at 711 or (800) 627-3529. For the Speech-to-Speech Relay, call (877) 627-3848.